

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph, beginning at page 12, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Yet another embodiment for conducting UV or visible light exposure of the lead and trailing edges of a digital plate in accordance with the present invention, is schematically illustrated in figures 1 and 2. As shown a high-intensity fluorescent tube 22 is placed at the exit point of a platesetter 10. The typical platesetter elements are schematically represented as a supporting drum 12, a clamp 16 for holding an edge 17 of a printing plate precursor 15 to be imaged in place on the drum 12, and a laser exposure source 18 emitting a modulated exposing beam 20 for the image wise exposure of the plate 15. A scanning mechanism not illustrated is used to scan the exposing beam 20 across the plate surface as shown in figure 2 along an exposure line "B". The plate transits the exposure zone as it moves along arrow "A". A pair of guide rollers 14 is shown to represent the platesetter exit. A UV light source such as a fluorescent light bulb is placed at the platesetter exit to focus the emitted light into a narrow line on the surface of the imaged plate moving in a direction perpendicular to the focused light line. This focused light line can be turned on and off via the power supply control 23 or via a shutter such that only the lead and trailing edges of the plate are exposed. Alternatively, such UV or visible exposure assembly can be placed at the exit of a platesetter or at the entrance of a processor.

Also in the same page replace the paragraph beginning on line 21 with the following rewritten paragraph:

As mentioned above, this method of exposing the portions of a printing plate precursor to radiation of a frequency different than the imagewise exposing radiation is not limited to cases where the plate precursor is positive working. While the necessity for exposing the shaded areas in the case of negative-working plates is not as common as for positive-working plates, because the unexposed areas are hydrophilic to start with and therefore do ~~not~~ not print, there are certain occasions where it is desirable to

render such shaded areas ink receptive. This is true, for example, in instances where the imaged area contains a solid border. In such case, the portion of a plate held under a non transparent clamp is unusable. By using the process of this invention and exposing that portion of the plate as described above, the solid image borders are extended through the otherwise unusable area of the plate.